(ii) Deemed export benefits to indigenous suppliers of capital goods to fertilizer projects provided such supplies are made under the procedure of international competitive bidding.

(iii) Import of fertilizer raw materials and intermediates at a concessional rate of custom duty.

(iv) Reasonable return on investment to the entrepreneurs under the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme (RPS) for urea and Concession Scheme for de-controlled fertilizers.

At present, 3 major fertilizer projects at a total estimated cost of Rs. 788 crore are under implementation in the country. When commissioned, these projects will create an additional capacity of 3.8 lakh MT per annum of urea and 6.76 lakh MT per annum of DAP, in the country.

With the objective to make available various fertilizers at affordable prices, Government announces Maximum Retail Price (MRP) for urea and its production is subsidised under the RPS. Consequent to decontrolling and decanalising of potassic and phosphatic fertilisers, the Government introduced Concession Scheme from 1992-93, under which concession is being provided on decontrolled potassic and phosphatic fertilisers on being sold at MRPs indicated under the Scheme. The imports of fertilizers other than urea, whose distribution and movement is controlled through ECA allocations, have been put under Open General License. The Buffer Scheme for imported MOP is also being implemented.

Indo-Oman Urea Project

†2773. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inordinate delay in the Indo-Oman Urea Project is taking place;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of its cost escalation; and

(c) by when this project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Government had approved the outstanding issues relating to the Indo-Oman Fertilizer Project in January 2001. Thereafter, discussions have been held amongst the sponsors

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of the project, Sultanate of Oman, Government of India and banks/ financial insitutions on various issues relating to the Project.

Presently, the Urea Offtake Agreement is under discussion with the banks/ financial institutions. The financial closure of the project is likely to be achieved by December 2001. Project is targeted to be completed within 35 months of Financial Closure. The estimated cost of the Project is US $ 969 Million. So far no increase in cost is reported.

Gas Cracker Project in Assam

2774. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position regarding establishment of Gas Cracker Unit at Borborua in Assam;

(b) whether the proposed land has been acquired; and

(c) whether all other necessary conditions have been fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Assam Gas Cracker Project is being implemented by Reliance Assam Petro-chemicals Ltd. (RAPL), a joint venture of Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC) and Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL). The Government of Assam have identified land for the Project at Lapetkata in Dibrugarh District, which is under acquisition. The Gas Supply Agreement between RAPL and Oil India Ltd. has been signed on October 19, 2000. However, the Gas Supply Agreement between RAPL and ONGC is under discussion.

Claim of amount for over-charging on drugs

2775. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 100 notices have been issued against the companies for over-charging for drugs;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, company-wise and drug-wise;

(c) what are the names of Companies who have not paid for overcharging amount till date claimed by NPPA during the current year;